

FIREMAN'S JOURNAL

A Weekly Chronicle of the Fire Department, Military, Masonic, Turf, Field Sports, Regattas, Hunting, Angling, Theatrical, and General News of California.

VOL. VII—NO. 10,

SAN FRANCISCO: SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 3, 1858.

WHOLE NO. 166.

CHARLES M. CHASE, Proprietor.

OUR TASK—TO ENLIGHTEN.

(TERMS, ONE YEAR, \$5; SIX MONTHS, \$3.

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Attention whatever will be paid to anonymous communications. Any person wishing articles published in the "Journal" must accompany them with the name of the author.

Divulgations will be inserted at the lowest rates. Descriptions of Job Printing attended to promptly.

The Old Friar.

BY SPENCER WALLACE CONE.

Who is there, but is sad at times,
And full of chagrin, fear & care?
So sad, the solemn weeper chaises
Off fill their eyes with tears?

Who hath not sighed as those deep dears
On the shadowed eve retire,
And twilight through the window steals
Like an old gray headed friar?

A Friar old, a Friar gray,
A solier man is he,
And just ere night, upon his way
He wendeth noiselessly.

He cometh to the sad at heart,
The merry mind also,

And well he knows to play his part
With pleasure, and with woe.

There are many wrinkles on his brow,
And his hair is nearly white;
And his step is slow and feeble now
For the failing of his sight.

His form is dim, and undefined,
Yet though I little see,

I know that by within my mind,
He comes, and sits by me.

He asks no word of courtesy,
Though a man of ancient birth,

But without a sound, so quietly

He sets him by the hearth;

And there sits, and seems to pray,

Beside the flickering fire;

And we think of things long passed away,

I, and that gray old Friar!

I wot not what his thoughts may be,
So busy are mine own

That in a while I scarcely see,

That now I am alone.

My left hand resting on my knee,

My head upon my right,

And mine eyes fixed ever musingly

On the dancing fire light.

Then comes to me a sis or dear,

Who sleeps in my native south,

And she draweth to me very near,

And presses her ruby mouth,

With a gentle kiss upon my cheek,

Alice, my sister! Art thou there?

Come to my arms, my own—I speak

To cold, and formless air.

Anon there comes to me another;

And he my own beloved brother

Lays his soft hand in mine.

But when that to dear touch I start

And when I clasp him to my heart

I am again alone.

And then that Friar old and gray,

As he my thoughts could see,

When these have vanished all away

Speaks comfort unto me;

And bids me think how happier far,

Holy, and pure, and fair,

My sister and my brother are

Than here on earth they were.

He preaches to that dull despair

But cowards should appal;

That flowers in spring time bloom as fair,

Though leaves in Autumn fall;

That sorrow is a blessed ill;

And life half shade, half light;

Then the gray old Friar's voice is still

And he goes forth thought the night.

WAGGERS.—Some time ago, on the Sabbath day we wended our way to one of our churches, and instead of a sermon, heard an address upon some missionary or other benevolent subject. After the address was concluded, two brethren were sent round with the baskets for contributions. Parson L., who was one of the basket-bearers, taking the side upon which we sat. Immediately in front and to the right of us, stood our friend our Bill H., a gentleman of infinite humor and full of dry jokes. Parson L. extended the basket, and Bill slowly shook his head. "Come, William, give us something," said the parson.

"Can't do it," replied Bill.

"Why not? Is not that a good one?"

"Yes, sir, I am not able to give anything."

"Pshaw! pshaw! I know you, you must give a better excuse than that."

"Well, I owe too much money; I must be just before I am generous, you know."

"But, William, you owe the Lord a much larger debt, than you owe any man else."

"It's true, parson; but then he ain't a pushin' me like this, he is not."

The persons face got into a curious condition as he passed on.

"Viva Voca!—A green member of the Harrisburg Legislature, when the election of assistant clerk came up, called out, Mr. Speaker, I make we vote 'vice versa.' The whole house burst into a roar, and not knowing what it meant, greeny asked his right hand man if it was not in order, adding he do n't know anything about these parliamentary rules."

"Will my darling Edwin grant his Angelina a boon?" "Is there among us on Earth Edwin would not do for his sweet pet? Name the boon, oh, dearest—name it!" "Then love as we dine by ourselves to-morrow, let us, oh! let us have roast pork, with plenty of sage and onions!"

"A lie always needs a truth for a handle to it, else the hand would cut itself which sought to drive it home upon another. The worst lies, therefore, are those whose blade is false, but whose handle is true."

A Heroine of '76.

BY MRS. M. A. DENISON.

I don't like to hear the noise of those hammers. The dull sound of laboring picks breaks upon the ear with monotonous regularity. They are making tracks for a railroad in this old town. I am not pleased with the "improvement," as some call it, for a pleasant farm-house and its surrounding fields that sloped from high and undulating hills have vanished forever before its nod.

The great genius of enterprise, with his ugly shear of commerce, is clipping at the poor wings of poetry and romance till, I fear, by-and-by, they will have power only to flap along the ground, their ethereal faculties chained down to stock-taking and invoices.

I am sorry the house has gone, for there were some recollections connected with its history, for the sake of which it would be pleasant could it have been spared. An old, red farm-house, surrounded by fields of waving grain and corn, in the autumn time, and overhung by the branches of various fruit trees, golden with the fullness of time, is a sight of picturesque beauty in a rich valley; especially if fine old mountain looms up in the back-ground, or a deep of forest trees stretched away into the clear, mellow atmosphere beyond.

And now his blue eyes were closed forever—his bright locks soiled in the dust. Oh! the thought was anguish! A deathly faintness came over her, but she rallied with a great effort, and said as calmly as she could, "Which one was sir?"

"Henry Pierpont, if I am not mistaken. Was he known to you?"

Was he known to her? Oh! the torture that followed that question! Henry! her noble, first born; he who had taken the place of the dead at their board, and with a gravity beyond his years carried out the plans his father left unfinished!

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The Fireman's Journal

AND MILITARY GAZETTE.

MARCUS D. BORUCK, Editor

SAN FRANCISCO

SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 1858.

Official.

MARYSVILLE March 31st, 1858.

M. D. Boruck, Esq., Editor Fireman's Journal:

Will you please announce to the firemen throughout the State, that the Board of Directors of the State Fair, to be held in this city in August next have determined to award the following prizes to the best playing engines of the 1st 2d and 3d class.

Apparatus not in use by regularly organized fire companies will not be allowed to compete for the prizes.

To the winner of the first prize, four hundred dollars.

To the winner of the second prize, two hundred dollars.

To the winner of the third prize, one hundred dollars.

Classification of the engines and all matters appertaining to the playing of the different matches to be arranged by the Judges of the same, on the day before the contest shall take place.

The following named gentlemen have been selected as Judges.

Franklin E. Whitney, Chief Engineer of the San Francisco Fire Department.

J. A. Ramsdall, Chief Engineer of the Stockton Fire Department.

Joseph S. Friend, Chief Engineer of the Sacramento Fire Department.

William Jones, Chief Engineer of the Placer County Fire Department.

John Sedgewick, Chief Engineer of the Sonora Fire Department.

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John C. Farn, President State Agricultural Society, A. Paxton, Treasurer State Agricultural Society, G. N. Sweeny, 1st Vice President Agt. Soc'y.

By the decision of Judge Norton, rendered on Saturday last, the humiliating fact is presented to the people of San Francisco, that although they have expended hundreds of thousands, nay, millions of dollars in the creation and sustenance of a fire department, furnishing its members with superior apparatus and splendid edifices to house them, they have no control over such property, but, on the contrary by virtue of judicial sanction, the proprietorship is taken out of their hands. Under the ruling of Judge Norton there is not a company in the department, whether disbanded or not, but what has a better right to the building they occupy as well as the apparatus they use, than those who paid for them. As Judge Norton has given this decision, we presume it would be high treason to even dare to criticise it, but we are one of those who have sufficient temerity to doubt the infallibility of even a Judge, though it be the gentleman who presides over the 12th District Court; and to say we think he has by virtue of his position established a most dangerous precedent, as far as relates to this department, at all events. If the people submit to any such doctrine as "that enunciated by Judge Norton, we will acknowledge ourselves very much mistaken, and if they cannot control that which they have bought and paid for, let them cease to make any further appropriations for an organization which sets them at defiance. The fiscal year ends on the 30th of June, at which time the Board of Supervisors, under the provisions of the Consolidation Bill, are called upon to appropriate \$30,000 for the expenses of the department; let an injunction be served upon the Auditor and Treasurer preventing any of that fund being paid out, until it is satisfactorily settled, whether the people are to be shaved off the amount, or whether they shall have a controlling voice in its disbursement. If the property now in possession of the department, and paid for by the city, is not the property of the people, restain the further payment of the \$200,000 expended in the construction of houses and to meet which the people are taxed every year. If discredited falls upon the city, reason of such restraint, let the blame fall where it properly belongs.

Enthusiastic as we are in the support of every measure which tends to advance the interests of firemen here and elsewhere, and tenacious as we are of their rights and privileges, we will not salutarily look on, and witness the perpetration of so great an imposition, as a portion of the firemen of this city have been guilty of toward a people whose only fault is that they treated them with too much leniency and petted and caressed them to a degree which they could not appreciate; without entering our solemn protest against it. Bigoted and interested press may cry out our persecution, and put up pitiful appeals in behalf of the firemen, but it would be far more appropriate were those appeals on the side of the people, who in this firemen's dispute, are the persecuted parties. In our opinion the firemen of this city are acting with the basest ingratitude towards a community which has done so much for them, and our word for it, years will not repair the injury which the department has received by reason of it. We have all along advocated that the firemen of this city were capable of self-government; but the occurrences of the past few months have convinced us of the fallacy of our belief. We are free to confess we were in error. They have shown themselves entirely irresponsible, and incapable of controlling themselves, and we hope that the people will (and we will certainly advocate it) at the earliest moment, appeal to the Legislature for relief in the premises, and the place the department where it was prior to the passage of the law of April 30th, 1855, and give it where it now properly belongs—in the hands of the people.

YOUNG AMERICA 6.—We acknowledge the receipt of an invitation to be present at the hall of the above company, which took place on last evening, at Hamilton Hall, Sacramento. While sitting in our editorial sanctum, grinding out items of interest, for to-day issue, our thoughts would occasionally wander to the scenes of enjoyment which we were confident were rapidly passing, and regretted that fate had so placed us, that the kind interest of our friends, R. M. Folger, Sylvester Marshall, Amos Perry, John W. Greenlaw, Robert Robinson, E. Jacobs, and the rest of the Young America boys to make us one of them, could not be carried out. We will guarantee that the hall was the best conducted firemen's hall ever held in Sacramento, and our belief that firemen and gentlemen are congenial spirits, successfully demonstrated.

Editorial Correspondence.

YREKA HOTEL, JUN 1, 1858.

After a very pleasant and agreeable visit at the residence of Mr. Carr, Callahan's Ranch, I left a few days since for this place, in one of the coaches of the California Stage Company. It is about forty miles from the ranch to this place, the road lying through Scotts Valley, as fine an agricultural district as I ever saw. The road is almost level, and passing as it does through a country, the face of which is dotted with innumerable farm-houses and settlements, renders the ride, especially to a stranger, very pleasant and interesting.

Yreka is situated in a valley, that may properly be called a branch of Shasta Valley. It is (with the exception of Columbia), the largest mining town in the State. The entire place is not, as many instances, located on one street, but is laid out with all the regularity of an Eastern city. Streets, twenty-three in number, running at right angles, are appropriately named and the house numbered; Miner street being the principal thoroughfare of the town. There are upwards of six hundred and fifty buildings in the place, fifty-three of them being of brick, and twelve of the latter two stories in height. The "Colton Theatre" is a very handsome brick edifice, two stories in height, fifty feet by eighty. There is a substantial Court House (this being the county seat of Siskiyou), of brick, two stories in height, devoted to the purposes of the county. Yreka has two Masonic and two Odd Fellows Lodges, numbering largely, and in which great interest is taken.

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Fire Limits.

Below will be found the Fire Limit order lately passed by the Board of Supervisors. It should be attentively read by every property and householder.

Order No. 62.—Fixing the Fire Limit Blocks within the City and County of San Francisco, and defining the extent of buildings therein.

The people of the city and county of San Francisco, do ordain as follows:

Sec. 1. The Fire Limits within the city and county of San Francisco, shall comprise the blocks hereinafter named; and also such other blocks as may be required, and such as may be ordered by the Board of Supervisors as Fire Limit Blocks.

All the Blocks comprised within the following limits:—Commencing at the intersection of Market, Pine and Davis streets; thence along the west line of Davis street to Sacramento street; thence along the south line of Sacramento street to Front street; thence along the west line of Front to Vallejo street; thence along the south line of Vallejo to Second street; thence along the west line of Sansom to Broadway street; thence along the south line of Broadway to Montgomery street; thence along the west line of Montgomery to Pacific street; thence along the south line of Pacific to Kearny street; thence along the west line of Kearny to Dupont street; thence along the south line of Dupont to Vallejo street; thence along the south line of Vallejo to Powell street; thence along the east line of Powell to Clay street; thence along the north line of Clay to Stockton street; thence along the east line of Stockton to Geary street; thence along the north line of Geary to its intersection with Market street; thence along the latterly line to Market street; to the point of beginning.

Admission..... 25 Cents

ON SATURDAY EVENING, JUNE 5, 1858, will be presented the new play of

THE LOVE KNOT.

Bernard, Mr. J. Booth
Lord Lavender, Mr. Rand
Sir Crosson, Mr. Paulin
Lady Harbottle, Mrs. Judah
Lady Lavender, Mrs. Burrell
Marian, Mrs. J. B. Booth

owing to the length of this drama, there will no other play this evening.

PRICES OF ADMISSION:

Dress Circle, \$1 | Parquette, \$1
Private Boxes, \$10 | Orchestra Seats, \$1

Entrance doors open at 7 o'clock. Commence at 7.

Box Office open this day, from 10 A. M. to 5 P. M., when seats can be secured

1pm

TO THE AFFLICTED.—Dr. L. J. CZAPKAY

would most respectfully inform the public of Califor-

nia that he has opened his medical practice for the

care of the chronically ill.

He has been successful in the treatment of

various diseases, particularly those of the heart,

liver, kidneys, lungs, &c. His practice is now well known throughout the State.

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